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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9268

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS: THE WINNERS IN CHAU DOC

REF: SAIGON 8570

1. REFTEL REPORTED ON THE CANDIDATES FOR THE LOWER HOUSE FROM CHAU DOC, WHERE FOURT VIETNAMESE AND ONE CAMBODIAN SEAT WERE AT STAKE.

2. THE WINNERS OF THE VIETNAMESE SEATS:

A. HUYNH VAN LAU, 45, 36,100 VOTES. LAU, A PROMINENT LOCAL HOA HAO, IS ONE OF CHAU DOC'S CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES. HE RAN FOR UPPER HOUSE ON LIST NUMBER 42, WHICH LOST.

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LAU WAS A HARD-WORKING CA DEPUTY, AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF PRO-KY DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE BLOC AND AN INDUSTRIOUS DEFENDER OF HOA HAO INTERESTS.

B. JUONG VY LONG 31, 33,153VOTES. LONG WAS BORN IN NORTH VIETNAM, AND IS A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY. HE IS SAID TO BE RELATED TO THE CHAU DOC POLICE CHIEF. HE IS NOT A HOA HAO.

C. VO QUANG VINH, 35, WITH 27,51Ø VOTES. HOA HAO MEMBER OFHOA HAO SOCIAL DEMONCRATIC PARTY WHO DID NOT WITHDRAW FROM THE RACE AS OTHER SDP MEMBERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE DONE AT THE BEHEST OF SDP CHIEF PHAM BA CUM.

D. NGUEYEN HUU TRINH, 49, 27,413 VOTES. HOA HAO, MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL. SUPPORTED BY (AND SUPPORTER OF) LUONG TRONG TUONG FACTION IN THE HMOA HAO CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISPUTE. SAID TO BE POOR BUT POPULAR.

3. WINNING THE CAMBODIAN SEAT FROM CHAU DOC WAS CHAU SOKAN, 44, WITH 114,372 VOTES. SOKAN IS FORMER TRI TON DISTRICT CHIEF, CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH IV CORPS CAMBODIAN AFFAIRS OFFICER LT COL KIM KHANH. SOKAN AND LAU ARE APPARENTLY ON BAD TERMS WITH EACH OTHER.
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